Dowell ordered Major Barry, his chief-of-artillery, to send forward tlte batteries of Eicketts and Griffin to take position beyond and to the south of the Henry House. It seems unlikely that General McDowell should have intended his chief-of-artillery to interpret this order so as to cause these valuable batteries to be exposed to a close musketry fire which of course they could not return; but Major Barry sent the batteries forward at once, and then busied himself to find a regiment or two to support them.[1] Eicketts and Griffin, as brave and competent men as ever lived, were amazed to receive such an order, and Griffin even ventured a word or two of remonstrance; but they promptly obeyed, and went into position near the Henry House and within musket-shot of the woods south of it.[2] Immediately the enemy's sharpshooters began to pick off the men and horses. The Zouave-regiment which had been assigned its a support gave way at once before a cavalry charge. The batteries were evidently in a difficult position. Their fire was necessarily directed upon the enemy's batteries and supporting infantry on the east side **of** the plateau, but they were continually losing men and horses by the fire of the enemy in the woods on their right. The Federal troops, however, were ad-

vancing ; Colonel Heintzelman was pushing the 14th New York down the Sudley and Manassas road, to gain a position to the right and rear of the batteries; Colonels Porter and Sherman were advancing up the

[1] Barry's Report; 2 W. R., 347.
[2] Willcox's Report ; 2 W, R., 408. Willcox calls the **Henry** House the Robinson House.